

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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MAY 30, 2006 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GRANDVIEW MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO GROWING MARIJUANA

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Bradley J. Schlozman, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Grandview, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to operating a sophisticated hydroponic marijuana growing operation in his basement.

Allen T. Bloodworth, 28, of Grandview, waived his right to a grand jury and pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this morning to a federal information that charges him with conspiracy to manufacture marijuana.

Bloodworth admitted that he was growing 206 marijuana plants in the basement of his residence, which he sold for \$550 per ounce. Law enforcement officers discovered the operation during a search of **Bloodworth's** residence on May 2, 2005.

Under federal statutes, **Bloodworth** could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in federal prison without parole, up to 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$2 million. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael S. Oliver. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States
Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html